

CLINICAL VIDEO

A flickering cutaneous lesion occurring after an insect bite

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Abstract

Many exaggerated skin reactions after insect bites have been described and due to global warming the incidence of these cases will increase. This clinical video promotes its recognition by showing an unusual cutaneous phenomenon after an insect bite.

KEYWORDS

insect bite, Quincke's sign, skin reaction

1 | INTRODUCTION

Many exaggerated skin reactions after insect bites and stings are being described. We present a clinical video of a flickering lesion occurring after an insect bite. This unusual cutaneous phenomenon resembles Quincke's sign, which occurs as a result of capillary pulsation in the nail bed due to severe aortic insufficiency.

A 30-year-old woman presented with an itchy and swollen lesion on the right medial side of her ankle, after being stung by a horsefly (Figure 1). Further inspection showed blanching and flushing of the skin simultaneous with her heartbeat (Video S1). The inflammation causes capillary vasodilatation and during systole the BP is sufficient to produce a redder flush, while during diastole the BP-drop leads to a paler appearance. This cutaneous



FIGURE 1 (A) Lesion after being stung by a horsefly, central blanching, and peripheral flushing of the skin. (B) Same lesion from another angle, notice the point of entry in the central blanching part

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phenomenon resembles Quincke's sign, which occurs as a result of capillary pulsation in the nail bed due to severe aortic insufficiency.¹ When observed outside the nail beds, it might be erroneously referred to as (pseudo-) Quincke's sign.²

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None.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Nothing to declare.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

TH wrote the first draft. BS critically revised it, and both authors read and approved the final version of the manuscript.

ETHICAL APPROVAL

The article does not contain any studies with human participants or animals.

CONSENT

Written consent was obtained from the patient.

DATA AVAILABILITY STATEMENT

All relevant data are included in this report.

REFERENCES

1. Yale SH, Tekiner H, Yale ES. Quincke, quincke-like and pseudo-quincke signs: nosology of cutaneous phenomena. *J Eur Acad Dermatol Venereol*. 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jdv.17516>. [Epub ahead of print].
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SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Additional supporting information may be found in the online version of the article at the publisher's website.

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